1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF12 North China AF12

Annex "A," Subparagraph 1a',
Sociological Background

GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

131 101 Immediately before the Peking regime abolished regional administrative organs in the summer of 1954, the North China Region consisted of two provinces -- Hopei and Shansi. Wedged between the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and the northeastern provinces to the north and Shantung and Honan provinces to the south, this region spans six degrees of latitude (36°-42°N), and nine degrees of longitude (110°-119°E). To the west, it borders on Shensi Province, and to the east, the Gulf of Pohai provides it with access to the sea. The area is approximately 332,000 square kilometers (129,000 sq. mi.) only 3.3 per cent of China's total land territory, with a population of over fifty-five million (9.6 per cent of the total Chinese populace).

• 161 The population density of North China as a whole is about 167 persons per square kilometer (439 per sq. mi.). But in areas like the Hai River estuary, including Tientsin, Peking, and its vicinity, the various population concentrations at the center of the famous North China Plain, and the Taiyuan high basin on the Shansi plateau, there are over five-hundred persons to each square kilometer (1,316 per sq. mi.) of land. On the other hand, there are less than twenty people per square mile in Northwest Shansi.[1]

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[1] Chou Sung-k'ang, Shan-hsi [Shansi], Shanghai, Chung-hua shu-chü, 1939, p. 70.

1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF12 North China AF12

Annex "A," Subparagraph 1c,
Sociological Background

POPULATION

I. DISTRIBUTION AND GROWTH

A. Total Figures

161 659 Based on the 1953 census carried out under the auspices of the Peking regime, the total population of North China amounts to 55,761,109. [1] The accuracy of this figure is open to question on the basis of one or both of the following facts: (1) The 1953 census-taking was not thorough and in certain areas where direct counting was not possible, undefined "indirect" methods (possibly estimates) were employed. (2) Before the results of the census were announced, responsible Communist quarters had begun a campaign to "correct the undesirable habit of filing false reports," and even the Bureau of Statistics had begun to criticize the lack of reliability in the statistical work of various government departments. [2] Until 1952, the estimates on China's population cited by the Communist officials were all under 500 million. Early in 1953, several months before the census figures were completely tabulated, the estimates

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[1] Kuang-ming Jih-pao [Enlightenment Daily] , Peking, Nov. 1, 1954, p. 1.

[2] Editorial, Jen-min Jih-pao [People's Daily] , Peking, Mar. 31, 1954, p. 1.

were stepped up to around 550 million. Thus there is ground for suspicion that the Peking government might have intentionally exaggerated the figures for propaganda purposes.[3]

However, until evidence is discovered to substantiate charges of fabrication, the figures in Table 1 will stand as the result of the first and only direct nation-wide census. Relative reliability is further strengthened by the following considerations: (1) They generally tally with the figures on the electoral delegates and the voters they represented in the "basic-level election" (see chapter on Structure of Government) for which the census was initiated.[4] (2) Scattered reports on the basic-level elections are available roughly covering all parts of China; this fact should serve to indicate the geographic extent, if not the degree of thoroughness with which the census was carried out. And thoroughness is unprecedented in China. (3) The Communists as far back as 1949 had begun their study on population, and it appears possible that the Peking regime had done some checking of the 1953 census against the figures previously released. (4) Only a comparatively small percentage of the 1953 population figures (about 8 million) was derived from the so-called "indirect method of

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[3] Tsui-chin Ch'i-koyüeh Lai Chung-yao Fei-Ch'ing Tsung-ho Pao-kao [Comprehensive Report on Important Developments in Communist China in the Past Seven Months] ,Taipei, 6th Section, Central Committee, Nationalist Party, 1954, p. 23.

Yuan-li Wu, An Economy Survey of Communist China, New York, Bookman Associates, 1956, p. 13.

1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF12 North China AF12

census-taking." (5) The above-cited communique also reported on the review of these figures by the Bureau of Statistics. After rechecking 9 per cent (or 52, 950, 000) of the total population in a cross-section of many different localities, duplicates amount to only 0. 139 per cent and those uncounted in the initial registration only 0. 25 per cent.

It should be mentioned that the term "North China" is used here to refer to a region in the northern part of China which has been of varying size at different times, and changes in provincial boundaries have affected the figures representing the population in this region. Considerable discrepancy is to be expected between any previous work on China's and our study, if different regional point of view is followed. 5/

B. Distribution and Density

The announcement of the results of the 1953 census gives figures by provinces and municipalities. It is to be noted, however, that the figure for Hopei Province does not include that portion of Jehol Province which was incorporated into Hopei at the end of July 1955.

5/ See chapter on Geographical Setting.

1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF12 North China Af12

Table 1. Population of North China*/

• 161

Hopei Province	35, 984, 644
Shansi Province	14, 314, 485
Peking Municipality	2, 768, 149
Tientsin Municipality	2, 693, 381
Total	55, 761, 109

*/Enlightenment Daily, Peking, Nov. 1, 1954, p. 1.

The population in this region stands fourth in size among China's regions. The average density of 167.57 per square kilometer (or 434 per sq. mi.) is second only to that of the East China Region, and this figure is possible because of such centers of concentration as Peking and Tientsin, in Hopei Province, and Taiyuan in Shansi Province. The following table shows population density according to the political subdivisions of this region:

Table 2. Population Density of North China*/

	Per Sq. Km.	Per Sq. Mi.
Hopei	204.45	529.75
Shansi	91.76	237.65
Peking	3, 915.34	10, 140.73
Tientsin	48, 978.74	126, 854.92
Regional Average	167.57	434.00

*/Based on 1953 figures and area figures in Chung-hua Jen-min Kung-ho-kuo Fen-sheng Ti-t'u [Atlas of the People's Republic of China by Province], Shanghai, Ti-t'u ch'u-pan-she, 1953.

1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF12 North China Af12

[6] The area and climate conditions of the North China Region may be compared to those of Missouri and Kansas, although the two states do have a higher annual average rainfall. The density of population in the two states according to the 1950 Census, averages only 45.92 per square mile. North China must support almost ten times as many people in an area of similar size.

A less discouraging view of North China's density of population results from a comparison with the situation in India -- a country whose average standard of living furnishes more valid ground for a comparative study of the social conditions of China. India's national average population density of 292.03 per square mile would indicate that the country is half as crowded as North China, but actually India is almost twice as congested if we compare it with China as a whole.[6/]

C. Population Growth

Detailed information on the growth of the population in this region, which may have been secured through the 1953 census, is not available. However, statistics on a few localities have been released and, on the basis of these limited studies, a general trend for this region can be seen. Census-taking in the municipality of Tientsin was

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[6/] Statistics for the U.S. and India are taken from the World Almanac, 1955, pp. 204, 259.

1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF12 North China AF12

completed as early as March 30, 1954. The results show:

1. Total Population of Tientsin	2,693,831
2. Children born since 1949	366,688
3. Babies under one year old	86,968

During the year 1953, an average of 240 babies were born daily in Tientsin. According to the Communists, the birth rate of 1953 in Tientsin was 3.2 per cent higher than in 1948.[7]

On the basis of the above-mentioned statistics and the available 1948 population figure of 1,772,840 for Tientsin, we can say that the annual rate of increase in Tientsin's population is approximately 87 per thousand, or 8.7 per cent.[8] This, indeed, is an alarming rate. In view of the following facts it is seen that this rate does not represent the North China Region as a whole: (1) The 1948 population figure of 1,772,840 for Tientsin announced by the Ministry of the Interior at Nanking has never been checked or verified. (2) The sudden jump of Tientsin's population since 1948 is at least partially attributable to the influx

[7] Enlightenment Daily, Mar. 30, 1954, p. 1.

[8] The 1948 Tientsin figure is taken from Chung-hua Min-kuo T'ung-chi T'i-yao [Statistical Abstract of the Republic of China, 1955], Taipei, Executive Yuan, 1955, p. 34. Computati on of rate of increase is according to Ch'en Ta, Jen-K'ou Wen-t'i [Population], Shanghai, Commercial Press, 1935, p. 116.

[78] of people resulting from the intensive industrialization program that has been pushed in this locality. Immigrants have a dual effect on the total population of Tientsin for they augment the total figure and increase the number of births. Considering these statements, it can be concluded that the rapid increase in Tientsin's population is not sufficient reason to assert that the increase rate for this region deviates in any great measure from the over-all trend of national population increase, which is 2 per cent per annum.

165 Lack of information on the death rate in this region makes it impossible to discuss this subject in any detail. However, the Peking regime has cited a few isolated cases as evidence of its claim that the welfare of the people has been greatly improved since the "liberation". One of the cases cited involves the Ch'ang-chih District in Shansi Province, where in 1949 as many as 57 per cent of the babies born in the district died of apoplectic diseases. To prove how health and sanitation measures have improved, Communist sources cited the population of one village -- Hsia-Ch'uan; for over fifty years the total population had remained about 470 until the census of 1953 raised it to 515. 9/ Another case cited concerns the new capital of China, Peking. In November 1950, the death rate in Peking stood at 0.11 per cent. Three years later, after the nation-wide

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9/ Jen-min Shou-ts'e [People's Handbook], Tientsin, Ta-kung pao, 1955, p. 29.

Table 1. Cultivated Land and Rural Population of North China*

Unit: 1,000 S = shih-mou A = acres H = households P = persons

	1946			1955				
	Hopei	Shansi	Total	Hopei	Shansi	Peking#	Tientsin×	Total
Cultivated Land	109,132 S (18,189 A)	72,879 S (12,146 A)	182,011 S (30,335 A)	137,179 S (22,863 A)	72,879 S (12,146 A)	1,106 S (184 A)	160 S (27 A)	211,324 S (35,220 A)
Rural Population	24,177 P	9,876 P	33,993 P	31,320 P	12,441 P	350 P	62 P	44,173 P
Farm Households	4,244 H	1,874 H	6,098 H	6,264 H	2,488 H	70 H	12 H	8,834 H
Acreage Per Household	25.8 S (4.3 A)	38.9 S (6.5 A)	32.4 S (5.4 A)	21.9 S (3.7 A)	29.3 S (4.9 A)	15.8 S (2.6 A)	13.3 S (2.2 A)	22.0 S (3.7 A)
Acreage Per Capita	4.5 S (0.8 A)	7.4 S (1.2 A)	5.9 S (1.0 A)	4.4 S (0.7 A)	5.9 S (1.0 A)	3.2 S (0.5 A)	2.5 S (0.4 A)	4.1 S (0.7 A)

* The data for 1946 is based on the Statistical Year Book of the Republic of China, Nanking 1948, pp. 70-71. For 1955 data, estimates from the Communist census of 1953 and the People's Republic of China by Provinces, Shanghai, 1953, p. 21.

\# Cheng-fu kung-tso Pao-kao hui-pien 1950 [Compendium of Government Reports], 1950, Peking, Jen-min ch'u-pan-she, 1951, pp. 249-57.

× Ibid., pp. 294-95.

(Table 1 faces p. 683)

[FACING p. 683]

161

1: Shansi U. S-4,5 1956 AF12 North China AF12

1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF12 North China
~~AF12~~ AF 12

I. CULTIVATED LAND AND RURAL POPULATION

161 The limited area of arable land in relation to the vast population is one of the chief problems of Chinese agriculture, and the two provinces and two municipalities of North China are not exceptions.[2] The total population of North China, according to the recent census undertaken by the Communists, is 55.76 million.[3] The ratio of population in rural and urban districts is 87 to 13, according to the Communists.[4] A comparison of cultivated land and rural population in the years 1946 and 1955 is presented in the following table:

2. J. L. Buck, Land Utilization in China, Chicago, U. of Chicago Press, 1937, pp. 267-69.

3. Jen-min Jih-pao [People's Daily], Nov. 1, 1954.

4. Tu-pao Shou-ts'e [Newspaper Reading Handbook], Hankow, Ch'ang-chiang jih-pao she, 1950, pp. 679-80.

1:Stanford U. S-4, 5 1956 AF12 North China
~~AF12~~ AF12

•161 It is evident from the foregoing table that the average land holding per farm household in the suburban area of Tientsin municipality was only 13.3 shih-mou (2.2 acres) in 1955, the lowest amount in the region. Shansi Province, with 29.3 shih-mou (4.9 acres), was the highest. Compared with the national average per household (15 shih-mou, or 2.5 acres), Hopei is somewhat lower and Shansi is almost 100 per cent higher.[5]

II. THE LAND REFORM MOVEMENT

423 The Land Reform Movement in North China was carried out in two stages: (1) in the old "liberated" areas the program had been completed before the end of 1949 and (2) in the so-called "new areas," land reform began in December 1949 and was all but complete in April 1950. The methods used in land reform in this region, as in Northeast China, differed somewhat from the methods used in other regions. In areas where the redistribution of land had been completed, the

5. Mao Tze-tung's report on the collectivization movement, Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao [China Daily News], New York, Oct. 28, 1955.

2: Gamble S-5 (1926-1933)1954 AF 12 North China AF 12

CHAPTER II

Population and Other Vital Statistics

162 THE POPULATION of Ting Hsien was generally estimated to be, in round numbers, forty 10,000s or 400,000 persons. The total could only be estimated for no complete census had been taken in the hsien. The families had been counted, but individuals had been counted only in sample groups of families. Our count of the families living in the hsien multiplied by 5.83, the average number of persons per family in a 7.5 per cent sample, gave a total population of 408,300, only 2.1 per cent more than the generally estimated 400,000.[1]

161 The average population density for the hsien was 95 persons per square li, 850 persons per square mile of total area. It was 1,100 persons per square mile of crop area. In determining these figures the area and population of the hsien city and its three suburbs have been included, as 72 per cent of their area was cultivated land. In America the population density per square mile of total area in 1930 was 649.8 in Rhode Island, 537.4 in Massachusetts, and 136.4 in Illinois.[2] Buck found the population density in a Hopei district 100 miles south of Ting Hsien to be 1,171 persons per square mile of farm area.[3]

162 361 According to our count there were 70,034 families in Ting Hsien in 1931. They were living in the hsien city, 10 "towns" and 443 "villages". We have not attempted to differentiate between the "towns" and "villages" for while the "towns" generally had more families than the "villages" there were some "villages" that were larger than the neighboring "town". Seventy-two of the "villages" held periodic markets, not all of them as large as those of the "towns" but very similar.

1. In 1947 the Ministry of the Interior reported the Ting Hsien population to be 445,474.

2. U.S. Census, 1930.

3. J. Lossing Buck, *Chinese Farm Economy* (University of Chicago Press, 1930).

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2: Gamble S-5 (1926-1933) 1954 AF 12 North China AF 12

There were 2,169 families in the city, and 67,865 in the 453 "villages" and "towns".

The number of families in the individual villages ranged from six to 1,200. Twenty per cent of the villages had less than 50 families, 46 per cent had less than 100 families, and 75 per cent had less than 200 families. Only seven, 1.5 per cent, had as many as 500 families. The average was 150 families per village, or 154 families if the hsien city is included.

The following figures show how the villages and families were divided in the six administrative districts of the hsien.

District	*Villages*	*Families*	*Average No. of Families per Village*	*Average No. of Mu per Family*
1	71	6,555	92	23.8
2	63	8,062	128	22.8
3	83	15,939	192	21.5
4	73	16,010	220	19.7
5	73	7,864	108	19.1
6	90	13,435	149	19.8
City	—	2,169	—	6.2
	453	70,034	150	20.4

It will be noted that in the different districts the number of villages varied from 63 to 90, the number of families from 6,555 to 16,010, and the average number of families per village from 92 to 220. We have not been able to find any reason for the wide variation in the averages. There were four market towns in the 4th District, the one with the largest average, but while there were two market towns in both the 3rd and the 5th District the average in the 5th District was 50 per cent more than in the 3rd. There was no market town in the 1st District as the city was its market center. If the city and 1st District are added together the average was 121 families per "village".

In contrast to the wide variation in the average number of families per village, there was only a small difference in the average amount of crop area per family in the six districts. It ranged from 19.1 mu in the 5th District to 23.8 mu in the 1st District. The average for the entire hsien, including the city and its three suburbs, was 20.2 mu per family.

A complete study of any part of the Chinese population is a difficult

2: Gamble S-5 (1926-1933) 1954 / AF12 North China AF12

Birth and Death Rates

163 A study made by the health department of the Mass Education Association found the crude birth rate to be 40.1 per 1,000, the crude death 165 rate 27.2 per 1,000. The infant mortality was 199 per 1,000 live births, 161 the maternal death rate 13.0 per 1,000 live births.

These figures verify the general report that the population was gradually increasing. The only figures we were able to secure that would give any indication of population growth over a period of years were from the elders of one village. They said that the number of families had increased steadily from 155 in 1882 to 180 in 1932, a growth of 16 per cent in 50 years. (See Chapter XV.) The increase, of course, could be the result of division of families rather than an increase in the number of persons, but the steady growth in the number of families seems to indicate at least some growth in population.

164 A health study of the students in 25 village primary schools showed that 58.5 per cent of the children had trachoma and 26.2 per cent ringworm.

Foot-binding

304 Foot-binding was almost universal among the women over 40 years 178 of age in the 515 families (99.2 per cent). None of the girls under 13 years of age had bound feet. The figures for the intervening five year age groups show how a cultural pattern, which in the past had successfully defied an imperial ban, had disappeared within 30 years.

304 The origin of the Chinese custom of foot-binding is uncertain, but apparently it began about one thousand years ago. It is first definitely mentioned in connection with the court of the southern T'ang dynasty at Nanking, 937–75 A.D. This court practiced a life of luxury and enjoyed the sight of dancing girls, their feet clad with "bow-shoes", the upturned toes of which resembled the bow of a Roman galley. The small feet of the sought-after dancers may have started the style, but it hardly explains the spread and long continuance of foot-binding, which has meant so much limitation, discomfort, and pain to so many individuals over so many years.

In the twelfth century the highly influential scholar-philosopher, Chu Hsi (1130–1200) was, according to Dr. Lin Yutang, "enthusiastic in introducing foot-binding in southern Fukien as a means of spreading Chinese culture and teaching the separation of men and women."

1 [In Ting Hsien (Province) -- Analyst]

2: Gamble S-5 (1926-1933) 1954 AF12 North China AF12

Size of Family

The 400 families included a total of 2,536 persons, an average of 6.3 persons per family. The total, however, included 64 year-round workers who lived with the families. If they are omitted, the size of the average family was 6.2. How the average size of the family increased as the size of the farm increased, from 3.8 persons for the families with 10 mu or less to 6.7 persons for those in the 31–40 mu group and 13.5 persons for those with over 100 mu, is shown in Table 17. If the 64 full-time workers are omitted, the average family was 8.2 for the 41–50 mu group, 8.8 for the 51–100 mu group, and 11.8 for the over 100 mu group. These were the only groups with enough full-time workers to affect the size of the average family. Ordinarily, we have not omitted the full-time workers as they were given their board by their employers and so were part of the family "mouths".

In other studies of Chinese families, we have regularly found that as the amount of the family income increased the average size of the family increased. In this study increased size of farm holding usually indicates increased family income. From the figures, it appears that there was a tendency for the average size of the family to increase some 35 per cent with a 100 per cent increase in the size of the farm.

The amount of land farmed by the family also appears to have a definite influence on both the number and the proportion of children in the family. The average number of children from one to 10 years of age, Chinese count, increased from 0.6 per family for the 1–10 mu group to 3.2 for the over 100 mu group. The proportion of children was 15 per cent in the families with 30 mu or less, but it was 24 per cent for the families with more than 100 mu.

The population density was 785 persons per square mile of crop area. It was about 650 per square mile if an average area for the home sites in the villages is added to the cultivated area and an allowance made for graves, roads, and wasteland.

For the 400 families the average amount of land per person was 4.8 mu, 0.8 of an acre. For the 1–10 mu group, the average was less than one-third of an acre per person. Table 17 shows how the amount increased as the size of the farm increased until the average for the over 100 mu group was five times the average for the 1–10 mu group.

The 2,536 members listed by the 400 families were divided 1,348

[In Ting Hsien -- Analyst]

4: Burgess E-4, 5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

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inhabitants of these industrial and commercial centers — the Chinese cities—performed a very important function in the life of ancient China.

These cities, which for the most part were the places of residence of the local officials, were economically autonomous. Not only was their manufacturing carried on by the local crafts, but their food came from the immediately adjacent countryside and frequently they maintained their own financial systems and special forms of taxation.

Elsewhere[1] has been discussed the effect on the process of adjustment to Western economic and cultural aggression of the Chinese attitudes resultant from this ancient social pattern, with its paternalistic control by the elders, its group solidarity and purely local interest.

The guilds are one expresion of this pattern. Guild organization is sufficiently extensive throughout China, and guild membership sufficiently numerous, to make this study of significance, provided the guilds studied are sufficiently like the guilds of other cities. Although no detailed study has been made of the guilds in any other city, references made in general works on China, the few general studies made of the guilds and the reports of our own investigators on the guilds in Foochow and Nanking all indicate that the organization and functions of industrial, commercial and professional guilds are very similar throughout China.

POPULATION PRESSURE

• 161

In addition to a consideration of the organization of clan, village and town, if the guild is to be pictured in its total setting two other factors should be discussed, namely, population pressure and the governmental system.

The facts collected by W. H. Mallory in *China, Land of*

[1] J. S. Burgess, "The New Cycle of Cathay and America's Part in it," *The Survey Graphic*, May 1, 1926, p. 183.

4: Burgess E-4,5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

Famine,[1] show clearly the undoubted over-population of wide areas in North China. A careful study of the cost of living and of family budgets for unskilled laborers and farmers, and also of the available food supply in certain areas of North China, shows that there is frequently in large districts a shortage of food.[2] The desire for sons to reverence the spirits of the departed, combined with the custom of early marriage, has in certain areas been the cause of a population increase greater than the land, under prevailing agricultural methods, could support. The result of this situation, coupled with lack of adequate communications and industrial development, has naturally caused a surplus of labor both in the agricultural districts and in the adjoining cities.[3] This surplus labor is an important factor in understanding the necessity for the monopolistic features of guild organization.

GOVERNMENT AND THE GUILDS

In contrasting the guilds of Europe with those of China, Morse claims that the principal difference between the two is that whereas in Europe the guildsmen were very closely related to local government, in China they have no such connection, but, on the contrary, frequently stand as a united body opposed to the encroachments of the official.[4] It is therefore evident that in considering the background of Chinese guilds it is essential that we have in mind the official system of that country and the resulting pressure upon the guilds by tax collectors.

[1] Mallory, *China, Land of Famine* (New York, 1926), pp. 7-20.

[2] C. B. Malone and J. B. Tayler, *The Study of Chinese Rural Economy*, China International Relief Commission Publications, Ser. B, No. 10 (Peking, 1924); C. G. Dittmer, "An Estimate of the Chinese Standard of Living in China," *Quart. Journ. of Economics*, vol. 33, 1918, pp. 107-128.

[3] Mallory, *op. cit.*, pp. 20-34.

[4] Morse, *op. cit.*, pp. 5-6.